

NEWSLETTER

12th February 2026

Principal's Report

One of the ways we celebrate with our students is to showcase their achievements and reflections as they grow and develop through our learning programs and events at PLPS. Each fortnight in our school newsletter we will be featuring a particular year level cohort or specialist subject with illustrations of students' work, student reflections or photos and captions of what the children have achieved and enjoyed.

The first showcase, in our newsletter this week, is our 2026 Prep students. It has been lovely to see the excitement and smiles of our Prep students enjoying their first couple of weeks at school. Our Prep children have had a positive start to the year and are settling well into the routines and structures associated with attending school, as well as their learning program in the classroom and their specialists' subjects.

A reminder our Prep students will be attending school each day of the week, starting as of next Monday, February 16th.

Tomorrow our senior students in years 6 and 5 will commence the summer inter-school sport season against other local schools in the district. Our students are representing PLPS in the sports of Basketball, Cricket Blast, Hot Shot Tennis, Volleyball, and Fully Loaded Softball. As well as endeavouring to perform at their best and trying to achieve success, our students are also aware of their responsibilities whenever they represent our school in the wider community. There is an expectation that our students exhibit a strong sense of sportsmanship, respect the umpires and their decision-making in all games and encourage their teammates. Thank you to Mr Vann for his organisation, ensuring our students have the opportunity to participate in this competition. We wish them the best of luck throughout the term.

One of our whole school events taking place early next month is our FUN RUN, which is our house cross-country running event. Information about this event was posted on Compass recently, including how to create online profiles for the fundraising component, thus qualifying for the prizes on offer. If you have any questions or would like any assistance with this process, please call the school office. All students from Prep to Year 6 will represent their house at this event as they compete for the PLPS House Cross-Country shield. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours for this event. The FUN RUN is scheduled Tuesday, March 3rd.

As we begin another school year, it is important to reiterate that the care and safety of all our students and members of the PLPS community is of utmost importance. This care is required and applies to our parent drivers when dropping off and collecting students at peak traffic periods before and after school. Can I please ask all drivers to adhere to road and parking rules in order to keep everyone safe. Please be considerate of the local residents by keeping their driveways clear. Stopping or parking across even a small section of a driveway impedes visibility, creating potentially dangerous situations for other drivers, bike riders and pedestrians. Consideration for all drivers in our local area is also required. Please do not stop on the roadway to let your children out of the car or for lengthy periods of time waiting for car parks. Again, this has recently caused potential danger for our students and other

road users. The staff car park is not a drop off or pick up zone immediately before or after school. Cars stopping and double parking pose a danger to all members of our community who are walking to or from their parked vehicles. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in keeping everyone safe.

We are pleased to announce that today we launched "The Stand Up Project" (SUP) for our school once again in 2026. The program is an innovative and comprehensive program designed to foster a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for all our students. SUP is a whole-school approach aiming to empower students, teachers, and parents to work together to continue to build an inclusive and welcoming community.

One of the key features that sets SUP apart is its peer-led approach. By involving students in the process, we aim to empower them to become upstanders and help create a more respectful and supportive environment for all.

The feedback from the 2025 students was extremely positive. This was from the year 6 students who conducted the program as well as the students in year 3 and 4 who participated in the session delivered by our year 6 students.

Our current students in year 6 began with an information session today and interested students then had the opportunity for a further session in readiness to lead and contribute to our school wide program.

We invite you to learn more about this program and engage with us in supporting our students as they embark on this journey. A parent information session will be conducted on Tuesday, February 24th at 4.30pm for parents and carers from all year levels. Further information will be posted on Compass next week.

Each year our School Council elections take place during the first term. This year we have four parent vacancies. Our School Council plays an important role in the progress and development of our school across many areas including governance, educational directions and policy development and ratification. It also monitors our financial situation and oversees our school's operating budget and expenditure programs. School Council is also a forum where important school community issues that impact upon our school and our students can be discussed and analysed.

If you are available and willing to attend a meeting that last 60-90 minutes once a month, have an interest in your child's school and how we can continue to provide an effective and engaging education to our students, this may be an opportunity for you to make a contribution to our school community.

Please note the time frame below for your information:

Wednesday, February 18th – notice of election and call for nominations

Wednesday, March 4th – closing date for nominations, 4:00pm.

If you would like further information or wish to clarify anything, please don't hesitate to contact me at school on 5940-9532

A reminder our "Meet the Teacher" evenings are being conducted next Monday and Tuesday, 3.30pm to 7pm. Please book a time with your child's teacher via Compass or contact our school office.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Friday 13th February - Friday 27th March: Summer Interschool Sports
(selected students)

Friday 13th February: Icy Pole Friday (Every Friday in Term 1)

Monday 16th February: Prep Students commence full weeks at school

Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th February: 'Meet the Teacher' conversations 3:30-7pm

Tuesday 3rd March: School Fun Run

Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th May: Year 5 Beechworth Camp

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Wednesday 18th February - 9am

Monday 2nd March - 9am

Tuesday 24th March - 9am

Thursday 2nd April - 9am



Hats

Hats are part of our school uniform in both Term 1 and Term 4 of the school year.

It is strongly recommended that all students have their hats on when they play at recess and lunch time out in the yard.

Please remember to label your hats too!

LATE ARRIVALS

Every child arriving after the 9am bell must come to the school office to collect a Late Pass to take to their teacher.

EARLY LEAVERS

Should parents wish to collect their child/children from school early they must sign them out at the office. Please allow yourself extra time for collection as we only call students to the office once parents arrive.

Our lunchtime runs from 1:40-2:25pm and it can be extremely difficult for students to hear announcements over this time. If you need to collect them over this period it maybe easier to collect students before lunch commences or after lunch finishes.



Secondhand School Uniform Sale

During Meet the Teacher Conversations on Monday 16th February and Tuesday 17th February, from 3:30pm to 7:00pm, secondhand school uniform will be available for purchase at the school office. There will be more details on compass. Payment can be made via EFTPOS or cash, however please note that change will be limited.

We would like to thank our school community for their generous donations of uniform items.

Canteen News Price update-

Yoghurt Frogs have been changed to 10 for \$2
(old price was 5 for \$1)





IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Sharing of food

Sharing of food items is NOT permitted at PLPS, due to reasons associated with health, safety and family beliefs and choice. Food cannot be distributed to other students: this includes food items to celebrate birthdays. Non-food items can be shared for birthdays, if so desired.

When food items are being used within the teaching and learning programs at school, communications will be posted on Compass to parents and carers outlining the food items being used. Parents will have the option to discuss implications for their child or opt out of these activities.



ICYPOLE FRIDAYS

We will be selling lemonade icy poles at lunch time on Fridays during term 1.

Icy poles are \$1.50 each and can be purchased from the Canteen.

If you need to drive to school, get your child into the habit of using the kerbside doors, away from traffic.



Important Information - Nearby Parking

Cardinia Shire Council's parking officers would like to remind the school community that it is an offence to park across a resident's driveway. This has become a regular problem around the school, but particularly in Radiata Cct.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated by the residents.

Important Information - Parking and Road Safety

Dear Parents and Carers

We have recently been contacted by Cardinia Shire Council regarding a concerning increase in reports regarding illegal parking, dangerous driving and pedestrian safety around schools, across the shire.

Together with Cardinia Shire Council, we wish to remind drivers of the importance of safety and adhering to the road rules when parking around the school, at pick up and drop off times.

To ensure the safety of all pedestrians, students and members of our school community, we ask that you:

- Park only in designated areas: Parking is not permitted in or across driveways, on nature strips, no-stopping zones, no-parking zones, bus zones, or areas reserved for staff. Please adhere to all signage and the road rules.
- Follow drop-off and pick-up procedures: Use the designated drop-off and pick-up zones to ensure a smooth and safe flow of traffic.
- Be mindful of pedestrians: Follow directions from School Crossing Supervisors and take extra caution during peak times when children are arriving or leaving school.
- Be respectful: Council Parking Officers are required to conduct regular patrols around schools to ensure safety. Please be respectful, and courteous.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation on this important Issue.

Welcome to prep at PLPS

Our Prep students have made a wonderful start to school and have adjusted well to their new routines, teachers, and learning environments. They are building their independence each day, confidently managing classroom expectations and taking increasing responsibility for their belongings and learning tasks. The students have enthusiastically participated in our specialist programs, visited the library, and are already developing a love of borrowing and sharing books. It has also been lovely to see them making new friends, playing together, and becoming valued members of our school community.







MAESTRO'S CORNER

Enrol in lessons for 2026

Contact Jared : 0411 083 631
maestros.corner.music@gmail.com

MUSIC LESSONS

At Pakenham Lakeside P.S.

Group Lessons

\$16 a week during school
terms



Learn keyboard or guitar
during school hours

Enrol at anytime

ENROL: maestros.corner.mymusicstaff.com

YAKKERBOO FESTIVAL

On 15 February 2026, Yakkerboo will proudly celebrate the 50th anniversary of its beloved community festival.

Much like Moomba, the Yakkerboo Festival features rides, market stalls, community displays, stage performances, fireworks, and a vibrant walking parade.

Traditionally, this event has been a highlight on the local calendar and a wonderful opportunity for schools and kindergartens to take part in a large-scale community celebration. As we mark this milestone year, we would be thrilled to see strong participation from local educational communities and invite you to be part of this special occasion.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

Parade

There is no cost to join the parade. You may walk with banners in uniform or dress to our 2026 festival theme, "Celebrating 50 years of Mr Yakkerboo".

Stage Performance

There is no cost for a 15-minute performance on the stage.

Market Stall

A 3m by 3m space will be provided at no charge to not for profit groups and \$85 for all other groups.

 **Contact Us**
entryforms@yakkerboo.org.au

 **More Information**
<https://yakkerboo.org.au>

Socials:   



10AM - 4PM

15
FEBRUARY
2026

**PB RONALD
RESERVE**

JOHN ST.,
PAKENHAM



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

APPLICATION FORM

School Name Pakenham Lakeside Primary School

School Ref ID 5504

Applicant details

Surname	
First Name	
Address	
Town/Suburb	
State and Postcode	
Contact Number	

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - -

OR Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)* **OR** Special Consideration**

*Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

**Out of Home Care applications must include a letter of support from the institution facilitating the arrangement (for example, Mackillop Family Services or the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)) as evidence of the arrangement and must be no more than 18 months old).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level
		not required		

Declaration

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders. I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ____/____/2026

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund eligibility

Applications must be submitted to the school as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2.

Where a school or family is unsure if the concession card is eligible, they are encouraged to submit the application into the CSEF system for validation.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Those who are eligible to apply for the CSEF **must meet both** of the following two criteria or be eligible for special consideration.

Eligible means-tested cards

Only financially means-tested cards are eligible.

Eligibility date

Eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (refer to the department's policy, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\)](#)), on either the first student day of Term 1 or Term 2.

Criterion 1 – General eligibility

The applicant must be one of the following:

- a parent or carer who is the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card
- a student over 16 years who is considered a mature minor and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card). Applicant to use the 16 and over application form. For guidance on assessing whether a student is a mature minor, refer to the department's policy on [Mature Minors and Decision Making](#)
- a parent or carer whose child is 16 or over and the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card but are not considered a mature minor. Applicant to use the 16 and over parent consent form.

For students over 16 years of age and where the eligible card is in the name of the student, the fund is only granted to that student, not their siblings.

Criterion 2 – Be of school age and attend a Victorian school

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a registered Victorian school. CSEF is not payable to a student attending pre-school, kindergarten, TAFE or who are home schooled.

Special Consideration

A special consideration eligibility category exists to assist families and students in certain circumstances. Applications should be made through this application form. For more information, refer to: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility](#).

Payment amounts

The CSEF is an annual payment paid directly to the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the department's policy for the current rates and more information, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts](#).

How to complete the application form

Note: all sections must be completed by the applicant.

1. Complete the APPLICANT DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2.

Privacy Statement

The Department of Education is committed to protecting your privacy. All information collected will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). This personal information is collected to assess your eligibility to receive a CSEF payment. Your data is securely managed and only shared with Centrelink and DFFH when necessary for business operations or legal compliance. By submitting this form, you consent to our data practices. For more information regarding correction to your personal information or the handling of personal information please email csef@education.vic.gov.au. For more information about the departments privacy policy, please visit: [Schools' privacy policy | vic.gov.au](#)

All Abilities Dance Class

danceon
ACADEMY

Coming in January 2026

Saturday 11.45-12.15 during school terms

Dance On Academy is an all inclusive dance school and we do recognise that a lot of kids need some extra attention.

We are offering a full class of fun and movement where individuals can learn to express themselves through dance. This class is catered to dancers of all ages with special needs who require that little extra support. The child can be accompanied by a support worker/parent/guardian if required.

Our caring and nurturing staff create classes that are:

- Structured
- Use visual aids
- Have minimised distractions
- Repetitive
- Use sensory props
- Have flexibility in uniform

BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL CLASS FOR 2026

Email: info@danceonacademy.com.au
Visit: www.danceonacademy.com.au



St Paul's
ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Scholarships

Secondary students who excel are encouraged to apply for our Academic Scholarships and an extended range of Personal Excellence Scholarships.

Whether you love Sport, The Arts, STEM, Business/Entrepreneurship, Leadership/Community Service or Environmental Awareness, consider joining Gippsland's leading school to pursue your potential.

Visit stpaulsags.vic.edu.au or contact us on **5623 5833** for more information. Applications close **6 March 2026**.

Apply Now

Kinder to Year 12 • 150 Bowen Street Warragul



Time for Secondary?

Choosing a secondary school that will best suit your child is one of the most important decisions you can make.

At St Paul's, we understand that each and every student has their own educational journey. Caring teachers provide tailored extension and support within our academic program, while our breadth of co-curricular activities challenges all students to pursue their potential beyond the classroom.

Year 7 Information Evening (2027 & 2028 students)

Wednesday 4 March 2026, Warragul Campus
Tours from 5pm, Presentation 6pm

Register now at stpaulsags.vic.edu.au
or contact our Enrolments team on 5623 5833.

